

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A semiconductor device comprising:
 - a semiconductor layer;
 - a first insulating film formed on said
 - 5 semiconductor layer;
 - a first electrode layer formed on said first insulating layer;
 - an element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film formed to extend through said
 - 10 first electrode layer and said first insulating film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;
 - a second insulating film formed on said first
 - 15 electrode layer and said element isolating region, an open portion exposing a surface of said first electrode layer being formed in said second insulating film; and
 - a second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film and said exposed surface of said first
 - 20 electrode layer, said second electrode layer being electrically connected to said first electrode layer via said open portion.
2. A semiconductor device comprising:
 - a semiconductor layer;
 - 25 a first insulating film formed on said semiconductor layer;
 - a first electrode layer formed on said first

insulating layer;

an element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film formed to extend through said first electrode layer and said first insulating film to reach an inner region of the semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;

5 a second insulating film formed on said first electrode layer and said element isolating region, an open portion exposing a surface of said first electrode layer being formed in said second insulating film;

10 a second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film; and

15 a third electrode layer formed on said second electrode layer and said exposed surface of said first electrode layer, said third electrode layer being electrically connected to said first electrode layer via said open portion.

3. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
20 wherein said first and second electrodes comprise a gate electrode of a selective transistor included in a NAND type flash memory.

4. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
25 wherein said first, second and third electrodes comprise a gate electrode of a selective transistor included in a NAND type flash memory.

5. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,

which is a semiconductor device in a memory cell array region, comprising:

 said semiconductor layer;

5 said first insulating film formed on said semiconductor layer;

 said first electrode layer formed on said first insulating layer;

10 said element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film formed to extend through said first electrode layer and said first insulating film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;

15 said second insulating film formed on said first electrode layer and said element isolating region; and

 said second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film;

20 wherein a surface of said element isolating region of said memory cell array region is arranged below a surface of said first electrode layer.

6. The semiconductor device according to claim 2, which is a semiconductor device in a memory cell array region, comprising:

25 said semiconductor layer;

 said first insulating film formed on said semiconductor layer;

said first electrode layer formed on said first insulating layer;

 said element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film formed to extend through said first electrode layer and said first insulating film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;

10 said second insulating film formed on said first electrode layer and said element isolating region;

 said second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film; and

15 said third electrode layer formed on said second electrode layer;

 wherein a surface of said element isolating region of said memory cell array region is arranged below a surface of said first electrode layer.

7. The semiconductor device according to claim 5,
20 wherein said first electrode layer performs a function
of a floating gate and said second electrode layer
performs a function of a control gate in said memory
cell array region.

8. The semiconductor device according to claim 6,
25 wherein said first electrode layer performs a function
of a floating gate and said second and third electrode
layers perform a function of a control gate in said

memory cell array region.

9. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
wherein said first and second electrode layers comprise
a gate electrode in a peripheral circuit region formed
around a memory cell array region.

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10. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
wherein said first and second electrode layers comprise
a gate electrode in a peripheral circuit region formed
around a memory cell array region, and said second
insulating film of said peripheral circuit region being
removed completely.

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11. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
further comprising a connecting member arranged above
said element isolating region and electrically
connected to said second electrode layer.

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12. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
further comprising a connecting member arranged above
said element isolating region and electrically
connected to said third electrode layer.

20

13. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
further comprising a connection member arranged above
said element region in which said second insulating
film is present and electrically connected to said
second electrode layer.

25

14. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
further comprising a wiring electrically connected to
said second electrode layer via a connecting member,

wherein said wiring and said first electrode layer are connected to each other via said second electrode layer extending from said element region onto said element isolating region.

5 15. The semiconductor device according to claim 2, further comprising a wiring electrically connected to said third electrode layer via a connecting member, wherein said wiring and said first electrode layer are connected to each other via said third electrode layer
10 10. extending from said element region onto said element isolating region.

15 16. The semiconductor device according to claim 1, which is a semiconductor device in which said first and second electrode layers form a gate electrode, and a plurality of said gate electrodes are arranged on a chip, wherein widths of said open portions of said gate electrodes are equal to each other.

20 17. The semiconductor device according to claim 2, which is a semiconductor device in which said first, second and third electrode layers form a gate electrode, and a plurality of said gate electrodes are arranged on a chip, wherein widths of said open portions of said gate electrodes are equal to each other.

25 18. The semiconductor device according to claim 1, which is a semiconductor device in which said first and second electrode layers form a gate electrode, wherein

a plurality of said open portions are formed within said gate electrodes and the widths of said open portions are equal to each other.

19. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
5 which is a semiconductor device in which said first, second and third electrode layers form a gate electrode, wherein a plurality of said open portions are formed within said gate electrodes and the widths of said open portions are equal to each other.

10 20. The semiconductor device according to
claim 18, wherein said open portions are formed to cross each other.

15 21. The semiconductor device according to
claim 19, wherein said open portions are formed to cross each other.

22. The semiconductor device according to
claim 18, wherein the distances between the adjacent open portions are equal to each other.

23. The semiconductor device according to
20 claim 19, wherein the distances between the adjacent open portions are equal to each other.

24. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
which is a semiconductor device comprising a plurality
of selective transistors formed said first and second
25 electrode layers in a NAND type flash memory, and a peripheral circuit transistor formed said first and second electrode layers,

5 said second insulating film of said plural selective transistors includes said open portion, and said second insulating film of said peripheral circuit transistor includes a plurality of said open portions, and a first distance between the adjacent open portions of said plural selective transistors is equal to a second distance between the adjacent open portions within a gate electrode of said peripheral circuit transistor.

10 25. The semiconductor device according to claim 2, which is a semiconductor device comprising a plurality of selective transistors formed said first, second and third electrode layers in a NAND type flash memory, and a peripheral circuit transistor formed said first, second and third electrode layers,

15 said second insulating film of said plural selective transistors includes said open portion, and said second insulating film of said peripheral circuit transistor includes a plurality of said open portions, and a first distance between the adjacent open portions of said plural selective transistors is equal to a second distance between the adjacent open portions within a gate electrode of said peripheral circuit transistor.

20 26. The semiconductor device according to
25 claim 24, wherein said second distance is defined on a basis of said first distance.

27. The semiconductor device according to
claim 25, wherein said second distance is defined on
a basis of said first distance.

28. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
5 which is a semiconductor device in which a gate
electrode is formed of said first and second electrode
layers, and said open portion is formed in said gate
electrode, wherein said open portion extends from above
said element region onto said element isolating region
10 in a direction of a channel width of said gate
electrode.

29. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
which is a semiconductor device in which a gate
electrode is formed of said first, second and third
15 electrode layers, and said open portion is formed in
said gate electrode, wherein said open portion extends
from above said element region onto said element
isolating region in a direction of a channel width of
said gate electrode.

20 30. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
wherein a thickness of said second electrode layer when
deposited is at least half a width of said open
portion.

25 31. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
wherein a thickness of said third electrode layer when
deposited is at least half a width of said open
portion.

32. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
wherein an electric resistance of said second electrode
layer is lower than that of said first electrode layer,
and said second electrode layer comprises of a metal
5 layer including a high melting point or a lamination
layer film comprising a metal silicide layer including
a high melting point and a polysilicon layer.

33. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
wherein an electric resistance of said second and third
10 electrode layers is each lower than that of said first
electrode layer, and said second and third electrode
layers comprise of a metal layer including a high
melting point or a lamination layer film comprising a
metal silicide layer including a high melting point and
15 a polysilicon layer.

34. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
wherein said second insulating film comprises of a
complex insulating film including a silicon nitride
film.

20 35. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
wherein said second insulating film comprises of a
complex insulating film including a silicon nitride
film.

25 36. The semiconductor device according to claim 1,
which is a semiconductor device in which a gate
electrode is formed of said first and second electrode
layers, wherein said second insulating film remains at

an edge portion of said gate electrode.

37. The semiconductor device according to claim 2,
which is a semiconductor device in which a gate
electrode is formed of said first, second and third
5 electrode layers, wherein said second insulating film
remains at an edge portion of said gate electrode.

38. A semiconductor device, which is a NAND type
flash memory comprising a memory cell array region
provided a memory transistor including a first
10 electrode layer performing a function of a floating
gate and a second electrode layer performing a function
of a control gate, and a selective gate region provided
a selective transistor formed adjacent to said memory
cell array region, and a peripheral circuit region
15 arranged around said memory cell array region, said
NAND type flash memory comprising:

a semiconductor layer common with said memory cell
array region, said selective gate region and said
peripheral circuit region;

20 a first insulating film formed on said
semiconductor layer, said first insulating film being
formed commonly with said memory cell array region,
said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit
region;

25 a first electrode layer formed on said first
insulating film commonly with said memory cell array
region, said selective gate region and said peripheral

circuit region;

an element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film extending through said first electrode layer and said first insulating layer to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said electrode isolating region being formed in each of said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region, and said electrode isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;

a second insulating film formed on said first electrode layer and said element isolating region commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region, said second insulating film in said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region including an open portion exposing a surface of said first electrode layer; and

a second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film and said exposed surface of said first electrode layer, said second electrode layer being formed commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region and being electrically connected to said first electrode layer via said open portion.

39. A semiconductor device, which is a NAND type flash memory comprising a memory cell array region

provided a memory transistor including a first electrode layer performing a function of a floating gate and a second electrode layer performing a function of a control gate, and a selective gate region provided
5 a selective transistor formed adjacent to said memory cell array region, and a peripheral circuit region arranged around said memory cell array region, said NAND type flash memory comprising:

10 a semiconductor layer common with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region;

15 a first insulating film formed on said semiconductor layer, said first insulating film being formed commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region;

20 a first electrode layer formed on said first insulating film commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region;

25 an element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film extending through said first electrode layer and said first insulating layer to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region being formed in each of said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region, and said element

isolating region isolating an element region and being self-aligned with said first electrode layer;

a second insulating film formed on said first electrode layer and said element isolating region commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region, said second insulating film in said selective gate region including a open portion exposing between a surface of said first electrode and partly a surface of said element isolating region formed adjacent to said first electrode layer; and

a second electrode layer formed on said second insulating film and said exposed surface of said first electrode layer commonly with said memory cell array region, said selective gate region and said peripheral circuit region, said second electrode layer being electrically connected to said first electrode layer via said open portion.

40. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device in a selective gate region provided a selective gate transistor formed adjacent to a memory cell array region, comprising:

forming a first insulating film on a semiconductor layer;

25 forming a first electrode layer on said first insulating film;

forming an element isolating region comprising an

element isolating insulating film extending through
said first electrode layer and said first insulating
film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor
layer, said element isolating region isolating an
5 element region;

forming a second insulating film on said element
isolating region and said first electrode layer;

forming an open portion within said second
insulating film to expose a surface of the first
10 electrode layer;

forming a second electrode layer on said second
insulating film and said exposed surface of said first
electrode layer; and

selectively removing said first electrode layer,
15 said second insulating film and said second electrode
layer to form a gate electrode.

41. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor
device in a selective gate region provided a selective
gate transistor formed adjacent to a memory cell array
20 region, comprising:

forming a first insulating film on a semiconductor
layer;

forming a first electrode layer on said first
insulating film;

25 forming an element isolating region comprising an
element isolating insulating film extending through
said first electrode layer and said first insulating

film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region;

5 forming a second insulating film on said element isolating region and said first electrode layer;

forming a second electrode layer on said second insulating film;

10 forming an open portion within said second insulating film to expose a surface of said first electrode layer;

forming a third electrode layer on said second electrode layer and said exposed surface of said first electrode layer; and

15 selectively removing said first electrode layer, said second insulating film, said second electrode layer and said third electrode layer to form a gate electrode.

42. A method of manufacturing a semiconductor device in a selective gate region provided a selective 20 gate transistor formed adjacent to a memory cell array region, comprising:

forming a first insulating film on a semiconductor layer;

25 forming a first electrode layer on said first insulating film;

forming an element isolating region comprising an element isolating insulating film extending through

said first electrode layer and said first insulating film to reach an inner region of said semiconductor layer, said element isolating region isolating an element region;

5 forming a second insulating film on said element isolating region and said first electrode layer;

forming a second electrode layer on said second insulating film;

10 forming a first mask layer on said second electrode layer;

forming a groove comprising a pair of mutually facing side surfaces in said first mask layer, said groove being formed to expose partly a surface of said second electrode layer;

15 forming a side wall comprising a second mask layer on said exposed side surface of said groove;

selectively removing said second electrode layer and said second insulating film by using said first and second mask layers to form an open portion exposing a 20 surface of said first electrode layer;

removing said first and second mask layers;

forming a third electrode layer on said second electrode layer and said exposed surface of said first electrode layer; and

25 selectively removing said first electrode layer, said second insulating film, said second electrode layer and said third electrode layer to form a gate

electrode.

43. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, wherein said second insulating film remains at an edge portion of said gate electrode when formed said gate electrode.

44. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, wherein said second insulating film remains at an edge portion of said gate electrode when formed said gate electrode.

45. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, wherein said second insulating film remains at an edge portion of said gate electrode when formed said gate electrode.

46. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, further comprising removing an upper portion of said element isolating insulating film after formation of said element isolating region to position said removed upper portion of said element isolating insulating film below a surface of said first electrode layer.

47. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, further comprising removing an upper portion of said element isolating insulating film after formation of said element isolating region to position said removed upper portion of said element isolating insulating film below a surface of said first electrode layer.

48. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, further comprising removing an upper portion of said element isolating insulating film after formation of said element
5 isolating region to position said removed upper portion of said element isolating insulating film below a surface of said first electrode layer.

49. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, further comprising
10 forming a connecting member electrically connected to said second electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element isolating region.

50. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, further comprising
15 forming a connecting member electrically connected to said third electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element isolating region.

51. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, further comprising
20 forming a connecting member electrically connected to said third electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element isolating region.

52. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, further comprising
25 forming a connecting member electrically connected to said second electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element region in which said

second insulating film is present.

53. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, further comprising forming a connecting member electrically connected to 5 said third electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element region in which said second insulating film is present.

10 54. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, further comprising forming a connecting member electrically connected to said third electrode layer, said connecting member being formed above said element region in which said second insulating film is present.

15 55. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, wherein said second electrode layer is formed in a thickness that is at least half a width of said open portion.

20 56. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, wherein said third electrode layer is formed in a thickness that is at least half a width of said open portion.

25 57. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, wherein said third electrode layer is formed in a thickness that is at least half a width of said open portion.

58. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 40, wherein a surface of said

second electrode layer is planarized after formation of said second electrode layer.

59. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 41, wherein a surface of said
5 third electrode layer is planarized after formation of said third electrode layer.

60. The method of manufacturing a semiconductor device according to claim 42, wherein a surface of said
10 third electrode layer is planarized after formation of said third electrode layer.